

Title 32: PROFESSIONS AND OCCUPATIONS

Chapter 51: PODIATRISTS

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Maine Revised Statutes
Title 32: PROFESSIONS AND OCCUPATIONS
Chapter 51: PODIATRISTS

Subchapter 1: GENERAL PROVISIONS

§3551. DEFINITIONS

As used in this chapter, unless the context indicates otherwise, the following terms have the following meanings. [1993, c. 600, Pt. A, §229 (RPR).]

1. Board. "Board" means the Board of Licensure of Podiatric Medicine.

[1993, c. 600, Pt. A, §229 (NEW) .]

2. License. "License" means authorization to practice podiatric medicine.

[1993, c. 600, Pt. A, §229 (NEW) .]

3. Podiatrist. "Podiatrist" means an individual currently licensed to practice podiatric medicine.

[1993, c. 600, Pt. A, §229 (NEW) .]

4. Practice of podiatric medicine. "Practice of podiatric medicine" means the diagnosis and treatment of maladies of the human foot and ankle by medical, surgical or mechanical means. Practice of podiatric medicine includes the administration of local anesthesia in conjunction with the practice of podiatry. The use of general anesthesia is permitted in conjunction with the practice of podiatry when administered or supervised by a medical or osteopathic physician who assumes responsibility for the administration of that anesthesia to a patient being treated by a podiatrist.

[1993, c. 600, Pt. A, §229 (NEW) .]

SECTION HISTORY

1977, c. 297, (RPR). 1993, c. 600, §A229 (RPR).

§3552. LICENSURE; EXCEPTIONS; PENALTY

1. Licensure required. Except as otherwise provided, it is unlawful for an individual to practice or attempt to practice podiatry or to claim to be licensed as a podiatrist without first obtaining a license to practice podiatry as provided in this chapter.

[1993, c. 600, Pt. A, §230 (NEW) .]

2. Exceptions. This chapter does not apply to an individual licensed to practice a healing art or science who is practicing podiatric medicine in the course of practice and within the scope of that license, to a commissioned medical or surgical officer of a United States Army, United States Navy or United States Marine hospital or public health service or to the sale of nonprescription foot appliances in commercial establishments.

[1993, c. 600, Pt. A, §230 (NEW) .]

3. Penalty. A person who violates subsection 1 is subject to Title 10, section 8003-C.

[2007, c. 402, Pt. P, §1 (AMD) .]

SECTION HISTORY

1993, c. 600, §A230 (RPR). 1999, c. 547, §B78 (AMD). 1999, c. 547, §B80 (AFF). 2007, c. 402, Pt. P, §1 (AMD).

§3552-A. PODIATRIC ASSISTANTS

1. Podiatric assistants permitted. This chapter may not be construed to prohibit a podiatrist from delegating to a podiatric assistant certain activities relating to medical care and treatment that are delegated by custom and usage, as long as those activities are under the supervision or control of the podiatrist, who must be present on the premises at the time the activities are performed. This section may not be construed to require the presence of the supervising and controlling podiatrist during the rendering of nondiagnostic or nontherapeutic services.

[2009, c. 112, Pt. A, §9 (AMD) .]

2. Liability. A podiatrist who delegates activities as described in subsection 1 to a podiatric assistant is legally liable for the medical activities of that podiatric assistant, and a podiatric assistant in this relationship is considered the podiatrist's agent. This subsection may not be construed to apply to an individual acting under a separate license accepted by the State to render services independently.

[2005, c. 77, §1 (NEW) .]

SECTION HISTORY

2005, c. 77, §1 (NEW). 2009, c. 112, Pt. A, §9 (AMD).

§3553. NARCOTICS

A licensed podiatrist may prescribe narcotic drugs for the treatment of ailments within the scope of the podiatrist's license with the approval of the Drug Enforcement Administration. [1993, c. 600, Pt. A, §231 (RPR).]

SECTION HISTORY

1979, c. 61, §1 (AMD). 1993, c. 600, §A231 (RPR).

§3554. PENALTIES

(REPEALED)

SECTION HISTORY

1993, c. 600, §A232 (RP).

§3555. REVIEW COMMITTEE IMMUNITY

Any member of a peer review committee of a state association composed of podiatrists licensed under this chapter, any staff member of such an association assisting a peer review committee and any witness or consultant appearing before or presenting information to the peer review committee is immune from civil liability for, without malice, undertaking or failing to undertake any act within the scope of the function of the committee. [1987, c. 646, §12 (NEW).]

SECTION HISTORY

1987, c. 646, §12 (NEW).

**Subchapter 2: BOARD OF LICENSURE OF PODIATRIC
MEDICINE HEADING: PL 1993, C. 600, PT. A, §233 (RPR)**

§3601. APPOINTMENT; TERM; REMOVAL

The Board of Licensure of Podiatric Medicine established in Title 5, section 12004-A, subsection 33 consists of 4 podiatrists and a public member as defined in Title 5, section 12004-A. The podiatrists are appointed by the Governor for a term of 4 years from nominations submitted by the Podiatry Association of Maine and by other organizations and individuals. The podiatrists selected must at the time of their appointment have been actively engaged in the practice of podiatry for a period of at least 2 years. Appointment of members must comply with Title 10, section 8009. [2007, c. 402, Pt. P, §2 (AMD).]

SECTION HISTORY

1975, c. 575, §§40,41 (AMD). 1975, c. 771, §364 (AMD). 1979, c. 61, §1A (AMD). 1983, c. 176, §A18 (AMD). 1983, c. 812, §230 (AMD). 1989, c. 503, §B141 (AMD). 1993, c. 600, §A234 (AMD). 2007, c. 402, Pt. P, §2 (AMD).

§3602. MEETINGS; CHAIR

The board shall meet at least once a year to conduct its business and to elect a chair. Additional meetings must be held as necessary to conduct the business of the board and may be convened at the call of the chair or a majority of the board members. A license to practice podiatry may not be granted except upon the affirmative vote of a majority of the members of the board. [2013, c. 246, Pt. B, §11 (AMD).]

SECTION HISTORY

1979, c. 61, §2 (AMD). 1983, c. 812, §231 (AMD). 1993, c. 600, §A235 (AMD). 2007, c. 402, Pt. P, §3 (AMD). 2013, c. 246, Pt. B, §11 (AMD).

§3603. COMPENSATION; DISPOSITION OF FEES

(REPEALED)

SECTION HISTORY

1969, c. 27, (AMD). 1975, c. 575, §42 (AMD). 1983, c. 812, §232 (AMD). 1993, c. 600, §A236 (AMD). 1995, c. 397, §57 (RP).

§3604. REPORTS; LIAISON; LIMITATIONS

(REPEALED)

SECTION HISTORY

1977, c. 604, §30 (RPR). 1979, c. 127, §181 (AMD). 1985, c. 748, §42 (AMD). 1993, c. 600, §A237 (AMD). 1993, c. 659, §B17 (AMD). 1995, c. 462, §A62 (RPR). 2007, c. 402, Pt. P, §4 (RP).

§3605. RULES AND REGULATIONS

(REPEALED)

SECTION HISTORY

1977, c. 458, §6A (NEW). 1977, c. 694, §617 (AMD). 1989, c. 632, §1 (RP).

§3605-A. RULES*(REPEALED)*

SECTION HISTORY

1989, c. 632, §2 (NEW). 1993, c. 600, §A238 (RP).

§3605-B. POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE BOARD

In addition to powers and duties otherwise provided by law, the board has the following powers and duties: [1993, c. 600, Pt. A, §239 (NEW).]

1. Licenses. Examine and issue and renew the licenses of qualified applicants;

[1993, c. 600, Pt. A, §239 (NEW) .]

2. Continuing education. Adopt standards for continuing education necessary to maintain licensure;

[1993, c. 600, Pt. A, §239 (NEW) .]

3. Rules. Adopt rules in accordance with the Maine Administrative Procedure Act, as it determines necessary to carry out the purposes of this chapter; and

[2011, c. 190, §7 (AMD) .]

4. Conduct investigations and hold hearings.

[2007, c. 402, Pt. P, §5 (RP) .]

5. Contracts.

[1995, c. 397, §58 (RP) .]

6. Records.

[2007, c. 402, Pt. P, §6 (RP) .]

7. Podiatrist health program. The board may establish protocols for the operation of a professional review committee as defined in Title 24, section 2502, subsection 4-A. The protocols must include the committee's reporting information the board considers appropriate regarding reports received, contracts or investigations made and the disposition of each report, as long as the committee is not required to disclose any personally identifiable information. The protocol may not prohibit an impaired podiatrist from seeking alternative forms of treatment.

The board has the power to contract with other agencies, individuals, firms or associations for the conduct and operation of a podiatrist health program operated by a professional review committee.

[2011, c. 190, §8 (NEW) .]

SECTION HISTORY

1993, c. 600, §A239 (NEW). 1995, c. 397, §58 (AMD). 2007, c. 402, Pt. P, §§5, 6 (AMD). 2011, c. 190, §§7, 8 (AMD).

§3606. BUDGET*(REPEALED)*

SECTION HISTORY

1977, c. 604, §31 (NEW). 1985, c. 748, §42 (AMD). 1993, c. 659, §B17 (AMD). 1995, c. 397, §59 (RP).

Subchapter 3: LICENSURE REQUIREMENTS
HEADING: PL 1993, C. 600, PT. A, §240 (RPR)

§3651. EXAMINATION; REQUIREMENTS*(REPEALED)*

SECTION HISTORY

1969, c. 433, §88 (AMD). 1971, c. 598, §76 (AMD). 1979, c. 61, §3 (AMD). 1983, c. 378, §56 (AMD). 1993, c. 600, §A241 (RP).

§3651-A. REQUIREMENTS AND LICENSURE

1. Residency requirement. An applicant who has graduated after January 1, 1991 from podiatric medical school as set forth in section 3651-C seeking licensure to practice podiatry shall provide the board with evidence of satisfactory completion of at least one year of postgraduate clinical training in a podiatric residency training program approved by the accrediting body of the American Podiatric Medical Association, or its successor or other organization approved by the board.

[2007, c. 621, §8 (AMD); 2007, c. 695, Pt. B, §12 (AMD) .]

2. Residency licensure. A doctor of podiatric medicine who has graduated after January 1, 1991 from podiatric medical school as set forth in section 3651-C may not practice podiatric medicine in a podiatric residency program without first having applied for and obtained a residency license from the board.

A. An applicant for a residency license must be a doctor of podiatric medicine who is a graduate of a school of podiatry, as set forth in this chapter. An examination is not required for applicants for residency licensure. The fee for residency licensure is the same as the fee for licensure for that year. A residency license may be denied for a reason for which a podiatric medical license may be disciplined under section 3656 or Title 10, section 8003, subsection 5-A, paragraph A. [2007, c. 695, Pt. B, §13 (AMD).]

B. A residency license is valid only for the practice of podiatric medicine as part of the postgraduate residency program. A residency license is subject to discipline for a reason for which a podiatric medical license may be disciplined under section 3656 or Title 10, section 8003, subsection 5-A, paragraph A. If the holder of a residency license is terminated from or otherwise ceases to be a resident in the postgraduate residency program, the residency license becomes void as of the date the resident is terminated or ceases to be a resident. [2007, c. 695, Pt. B, §13 (AMD).]

C. A residency license is valid for up to one year, and may be renewed annually before the first day of July of every year, not to exceed an aggregate of 4 years. Renewal of a residency license is subject to the same requirements and conditions as the initial residency license. [1993, c. 600, Pt. A, §242 (AMD); 1993, c. 600, Pt. A, §243 (AFF).]

[2007, c. 621, §8 (AMD); 2007, c. 695, Pt. B, §13 (AMD) .]

SECTION HISTORY

1993, c. 278, §1 (NEW). 1993, c. 278, §4 (AFF). 1993, c. 600, §A242 (AMD). 1993, c. 600, §A243 (AFF). 2007, c. 402, Pt. P, §§7, 8 (AMD). 2007, c. 621, §8 (AMD). 2007, c. 695, Pt. B, §§12, 13 (AMD).

§3651-B. EXAMINATION; REQUIREMENTS*(REPEALED)*

SECTION HISTORY

1993, c. 600, §A244 (NEW). 2007, c. 402, Pt. P, §9 (RP).

§3651-C. EXAMINATION; REQUIREMENTS

Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, an individual must pass an examination approved by the board before engaging in the practice of podiatry. An applicant shall submit an application for a license to practice podiatry containing satisfactory proof that the applicant: [2007, c. 402, Pt. P, §10 (NEW).]

1. Minimum age. Is at least 18 years of age;

[2007, c. 402, Pt. P, §10 (NEW) .]

2. Graduation. Has received a certificate of graduation from an accredited college of podiatric medicine, recognized by the Council of Education of the American Podiatry Association or its successor or other organization approved by the board; and

[2007, c. 402, Pt. P, §10 (NEW) .]

3. Examination. Has passed an examination approved by the board.

[2007, c. 402, Pt. P, §10 (NEW) .]

SECTION HISTORY

2007, c. 402, Pt. P, §10 (NEW).

§3652. FEES; REEXAMINATION; LICENSE RENEWAL

The Director of the Office of Professional and Occupational Regulation within the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation may establish by rule fees for purposes authorized under this chapter in amounts that are reasonable and necessary for their respective purposes, except that the fee for any one purpose may not exceed \$600 annually. Rules adopted pursuant to this section are routine technical rules pursuant to Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A. [2007, c. 402, Pt. P, §11 (AMD); 2011, c. 286, Pt. B, §5 (REV).]

An applicant for an examination for a license to practice podiatry shall pay, at the time of filing an application, a license application fee and a license fee as set under this section plus actual costs of examination administration. An applicant who fails to pass an examination is entitled to a reexamination within 6 months upon the payment of a fee, but only 2 such reexaminations are permitted. Podiatrists licensed in another state and applying for a license to practice in this State without examination shall pay an application fee and a license fee. [2007, c. 402, Pt. P, §11 (AMD).]

A doctor of podiatric medicine licensed to practice podiatric medicine and surgery within this State shall apply on or before July 1st of every year or at such other time as the Commissioner of Professional and Financial Regulation may designate, to the board for a license renewal and pay the renewal fee as set under this section. [2007, c. 402, Pt. P, §11 (AMD).]

On or before July 1st of every year, an applicant who is practicing podiatric medicine and surgery in this State shall include satisfactory evidence to the board that in the preceding license period the applicant has completed a program of continuing education as prescribed in the rules of the board. [2007, c. 1, §18 (COR).]

An application for license renewal made not more than 90 days after the date of expiration must include a late fee in addition to the renewal fee as set under this section. An application received more than 90 days but less than 2 years after the expiration date is subject to the requirements for new applicants as well as continuing education requirements, if applicable, and a late fee, renewal fee and additional late fee as set under this section, except that the board, giving due consideration to the health, welfare and safety of the citizens of the State, may waive the examination requirement at its discretion. A license that has been expired for over 2 years may not be renewed and must be processed as a new application. [2007, c. 402, Pt. P, §11 (AMD).]

SECTION HISTORY

1977, c. 267, §1 (RPR). 1981, c. 206, (RPR). 1993, c. 347, §1 (AMD). 1993, c. 600, §A245 (AMD). 1999, c. 257, §1 (AMD). 1999, c. 685, §12 (AMD). RR 2007, c. 1, §18 (COR). 2007, c. 402, Pt. P, §11 (AMD). 2011, c. 286, Pt. B, §5 (REV).

§3653. USE OF TITLE

An applicant who satisfactorily meets the requirements for license to practice podiatry, as provided in this chapter, may be granted a license by the board that entitles the individual to whom it is granted to practice podiatry in this State. A podiatrist licensed in accordance with this chapter may use the word "Doctor" or the letters "Dr." when followed by the word "Podiatrist" or "Chiropracist," or the designation of the degree "D.P.M." [2009, c. 112, Pt. A, §10 (AMD).]

SECTION HISTORY

1993, c. 600, §A246 (AMD). 2009, c. 112, Pt. A, §10 (AMD).

§3654. RECIPROCITY; ENDORSEMENT; RESIDENCY REQUIREMENT

The board may issue a license to practice podiatry by endorsement to an applicant who has successfully passed the written examination of another state or of a national certifying agency in podiatry recognized by the board if the written examination of the other state or national certifying agency was equivalent to its own examination and if the applicant satisfies in all other respects the requirements for licensure in section 3651-A. An applicant for licensure by endorsement who graduated after January 1, 1991 from podiatric medical school under section 3651-A shall provide the board evidence of satisfactory completion of at least one year of postgraduate clinical training in a podiatric residency training program under section 3651-A. The application to the board must be accompanied by the application fee and license fee as set under section 3652. [2007, c. 402, Pt. P, §12 (AMD).]

SECTION HISTORY

1977, c. 267, §2 (AMD). 1983, c. 378, §57 (AMD). 1993, c. 278, §2 (AMD). 1993, c. 278, §4 (AFF). 1993, c. 600, §A247 (RPR). 1999, c. 257, §§2,3 (AMD). 1999, c. 685, §13 (AMD). 2007, c. 402, Pt. P, §12 (AMD).

§3655. SUSPENSION OR REVOCATION OF LICENSE

(REPEALED)

SECTION HISTORY

1973, c. 303, §3 (AMD). 1977, c. 458, §§7-10 (AMD). 1977, c. 694, §618 (AMD). 1979, c. 61, §§4,5 (AMD). 1981, c. 25, (AMD). 1983, c. 378, §58 (RP).

§3655-A. DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS*(REPEALED)*

SECTION HISTORY

1983, c. 378, §59 (NEW). 1993, c. 600, §A248 (AMD). 1999, c. 547, §B68 (AMD). 1999, c. 547, §B80 (AFF). 2007, c. 402, Pt. P, §13 (RP).

§3656. DENIAL OR REFUSAL TO RENEW LICENSE; DISCIPLINARY ACTION; INFORMAL CONFERENCE

In addition to the grounds enumerated in Title 10, section 8003, subsection 5-A, paragraph A, the board may deny a license, refuse to renew a license or impose the disciplinary sanctions authorized by Title 10, section 8003, subsection 5-A for: [2007, c. 402, Pt. P, §14 (NEW) .]

1. Misuse of alcohol, drugs or other substances. Misuse of alcohol, drugs or other substances that has resulted or may result in the applicant or licensee performing services in a manner that endangers the health or safety of the licensee's patients;

[2013, c. 105, §8 (AMD) .]

2. Mental or physical condition. A professional diagnosis of a mental or physical condition that has resulted or may result in the applicant or licensee performing services in a manner that endangers the health or safety of the podiatrist's patients;

[2007, c. 402, Pt. P, §14 (NEW) .]

3. False advertising. Engaging in false, misleading or deceptive advertising; or

[2007, c. 402, Pt. P, §14 (NEW) .]

4. Unlawful prescription of controlled substance. Prescribing narcotic or hypnotic or other drugs listed as controlled substances by the federal Drug Enforcement Administration for other than accepted therapeutic purposes.

[2007, c. 402, Pt. P, §14 (NEW) .]

SECTION HISTORY

2007, c. 402, Pt. P, §14 (NEW). 2013, c. 105, §8 (AMD). 2013, c. 217, Pt. L, §1 (AMD).

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